

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Wieslaw J. Staszewski

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Title

STRUCTURAL HEALTH MONITORING

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

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In the claims:

Please cancel claims 23 and 46 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

- (Amended) A method of determining the structural health of a body, the method 1. comprising the steps of identifying at least one phase characteristic of a signal represented by first data, the first data being derived from the body while bearing at least a guided wave produced in response to application of at least one excitation signal to the body, and providing a measure of the structural health of the body using the at least one phase characteristic.
- (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, in which the step of identifying at least one 2. phase characteristic comprises the step of calculating a phase modulation of the first data

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